

MINUTES
HOUSE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 17, 2021

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Dixon, Vice Chairman Furniss, Representatives Crane, Palmer, Barbieri, Armstrong, DeMordaunt, Clow, Andrus, Nichols, Adams, Bundy, Ferch, Galloway, Mitchell, Shepherd, Berch, Green

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Barbieri, Green

GUESTS: MiChell Bird, Section Chief, Idaho Division of Occupational Licenses (IDOPL), Patrick Grace, Deputy Administrator, IDOPL, Jason Hudson, AFL-CIO, Marty Durand, Piotrowski Durand LLC

Chairman Dixon called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Chairman Dixon turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Furniss**.

MOTION: **Rep. Berch** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 11, 2021. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Berch** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 15, 2021. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3201-2000F: **MiChell Bird**, Section Chief, IDOPL, presented **Docket No. 24-3201-2000F**, a pending rule regarding the rules of the Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. Ms. Bird stated the rules were previously approved and the approach to the changes was in line with the Red Tape Reduction Act. She added that the only changes made were modifications for the definition of misconduct to be compliant with statute, amending the Continuing Professional Development rule, and an addition of a provision in relation to the Continuing Professional Development Rule during an emergency.

MOTION: **Chairman Dixon** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3201-2000F**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3701-2000F: **MiChell Bird**, IDOPL, presented **Docket No. 24-3701-2000F**, a pending rule regarding the rules of the Idaho Real Estate Commission. Ms. Bird stated the rules were previously approved in its entirety and changes were in line with the Red Tape Reduction Act. She added that there were no additional changes from last year.

MOTION: **Rep. Mitchell** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3701-2000F**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3900-2000F: **MiChell Bird**, IDOPL, presented **Docket No. 24-3900-2000F, Subsection 24.39.10**, a pending rule regarding rules of the Idaho Electrical Board. Ms. Bird said the rules needed to be re-authorized and changes were done in line with the Red Tape Reduction Act. She said that there were three main changes to the rules: the ratio of 2 to 1 to 4 to 1 in relation to journeymen and electrical apprentices, the elimination of language in rules that were previously overlooked, and an update of the term 'bureau' to 'division.'

In response to a Committee question, **MiChell Bird** deferred to **Patrick Grace**, Deputy Administrator, IDOPL. Mr. Grace stated the 2017 National Electrical Code is the most recent code adopted.

In response to a Committee question, **Rep. Crane** provided background regarding the discussions of journeymen to apprentice ratios in previous years by the legislature. He expressed frustration with the ratio change, stating the director was aware of the Committees wishes and disregarded them.

Committee members expressed confusion about the document being referenced in relation to the materials provided.

Vice Chairman Furniss put the committee at ease.

Vice Chairman Furniss resumed the meeting.

In response to Committee questions, **Patrick Grace** stated the debate of journeymen to apprentice ratios has been discussed for many years, the main concerns regarding the ratio was safety and training for apprentices, and inspectors aren't able to catch every single mistake.

Those speaking **in support** were **Jason Hudson**, AFL-CIO, and **Marty Durand**, Idaho Building Trade. Mr. Hudson expressed concern, stating that the removal of a journeyman to apprentices ratio would make it more difficult to follow safety guidelines and for individuals wanting to participate in the trade. Ms. Durand stated she opposed any rejections to the Idaho Electric Board rules and changes should be done through legislation.

In response to Committee questions, **Jason Hudson** provided information about the current availability of journeymen in Idaho and due to the booming construction industry throughout the State, training and safety measures are more important to electrical apprenticeships.

Rep. Crane, Shepherd, and Chairman Dixon declared **Rule 80**, stating a possible conflict of interest but that they would be voting on the legislation.

MOTION: **Rep. Crane** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3900-2000F, Section 105**, with the exception of **Subsection 09.a. and 09.b.**

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Berch** requested he be recorded as voting **NAY.**

MiChell Bird, IDOPL, expressed appreciation for the discussion and consideration the Committee shared and hopes that with the reorganization of IDOPL would help with addressing the Committee's concerns.

DOCKET NO. 24-3900-2000F: **MiChell Bird**, IDOPL, presented the remaining subsections of **Docket No. 24-3900-2000F.**

MOTION: **Rep. Ferch** made a motion to approve the remaining **Subsections of Docket No. 24-3900-2000F.**

Rep. Crane declared **Rule 80**, stating a possible conflict of interest but that he would be voting on the legislation.

Kaitly Reineke, House Page, was recognized for her service. Ms. Reineke expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to serve as a page.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Representative Dixon
Chair

Mackenzie Gibbs
Secretary